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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jeffrey Tze Fei Wong et al.

Serial No.: 09/827,255

Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE TARGETED DELIVERY OF AGENTS TO TREAT LIVER CANCER

Filing Date: May 4, 2001

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: M. Schmidt

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action of June 12, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. The final office action was mailed on February 6, 2003. Response was due May 6, 2003 and one-month extension of time was paid with the response filed on June 5, 2003, making the response timely filed on June 5, 2003. Applicants hereby enclose an additional two-month petition for extension of time extending the period for response to August 6, 2003, making this response timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this filing.

Remarks / Arguments begin on page 4 of this filing.

08/08/2003 AWONDAF1 00000104 09827255
02 FC:2252 205.00 OP

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, including the claims as originally filed.

1. (currently amended) A composition for the targeted delivery of an ~~therapeutic~~ active agent to a tissue expressing asialoglycoprotein receptors comprising an effective amount of the agent encapsulated in a liposome having a molar ratio PC:Chol:PS of 11:42:0.025 coupled to desialyated glycoprotein-α1.

2. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ~~therapeutic~~ agent is a drug or a polynucleotide.

3. (currently amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein the polynucleotide is cDNA encoding a ~~therapeutic~~ protein, a ribozyme, and antisense DNA.

4. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ~~therapeutic~~ agent is selected from the group consisting of a cytotoxic drugs, a protein.

5. (original) The composition of claim 4, wherein the cytotoxic drug is selected from the group consisting of doxorubicin, vincristine, daunorubicin, and amphiphatic amines.

6. (previously amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the desialyated glycoprotein-α1 is coupled to the liposome by an avidinbiotin or thiol-maleamide linkaes.

7. (currently amended) A method for targeted delivery of a ~~therapeutic~~ active agent to a tissue expressing asialoglycoprotein receptors comprising delivery to the tissue an effective amount of the composition of any of claims 1 to 6.

8. Canceled

9. (currently amended) A composition for the targeted delivery of a ~~therapeutic~~ active agent to a tissue expressing asialoglycoproteing receptors comprising an effective amount of a doxorubicin encapsulated in a liposome having a molar ratio PC:Chol:PS of 11:0.025 coupled to desialytated glycoprotein- α 1 by anavidin-biotin linkage.

10. Withdrawn